financial literacy including EA 2000, risk assessment, commercial frauds, money laundering, anti-evasion, anti-smuggling, etc.

(c) This information is not maintained by this Department.

Appointment of tax ombudsmen

768. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are working on a proposal to appoint tax ombudsmen throughout the country to resolve taxpayers disputes or grievances against the Income Tax Department;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) the proposed date of implementation of the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Department has introduced the Income Tax Ombudsman Guidelines, 2006 with effect from 1st January 2006, with the objective of resolution of complaints relating to public grievances against the Income-Tax Department, and to facilitate the satisfaction or settlement of such complaints. The Guidelines envisage appointment of 12 Income Tax Ombudsmen at New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Pune, Kanpur, Chandigarh , Bhopal and Kochi. The Income Tax Ombudsmen at New Delhi and Kolkata have already been appointed.

Increase in ADB Aid

769. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has increased the quantum of aid to country during the current year compared to last year;

(b) if so, the comparative details thereof;

(c) the amount utilised for which purpose State-wise; and

(d) the number of projects taken up with this amount in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Asian Development Bank had approved US $ 1.21 billion assistance for India in Calendar Year (CY) 2005 and as per ADB's India Country Strategy and Program Update, ADB plans to increase its lending to India in CY 2006 to US $ 2.25 billion.

(c) and (d) The following projects were approved in CY 2005

		US$ million
1.	Chhattisgarh Irrigation Project	46.10
2.	Tsunami Emergency Assistance Sector Project (Kerala and Tamil Nadu)	200.00*
3.	Rural Roads Sector II Project (Assam, West Bengal and Orissa)	750.00
4.	Kerala Sustainable Urban Development Project	221.20
	TOTAL :	1217.30

* US$ 100 million as loan and US $ 100 million as grant

ADB-funded Projects for CY 2006 are at various stages of processing.

Criticism of new income tax form (2F)

770. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of wide-spread criticism about introduction of new Income Tax form (2F)

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to alley public apprehensions about it;

(c) what are the reasons for Government flip-flop on the scope/ desirability of introducing this from *viz.* the form being removed or reviewed for modification;